



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 30 September 2008

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- According to the Washington Bureau, the executive branch has abruptly halted a government program that tests the levels of pesticides in fruits, vegetables, and field crops, arguing that the \$8 million-a-year program is too expensive. (See item [24](#))
- Federal Computer Week reports that the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico suffers from cybersecurity weaknesses that affect how it protects information on its sensitive but unclassified network, according to a new report from the Government Accountability Office. (See item [34](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#), [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical**: ELEVATED, **Cyber**: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 29, Bloomberg* – (International) **Global oil output capacity to fall short with 6 years, IEA says.** Global oil production capacity will be insufficient within six years, according to the executive director of the International Energy Agency. Capacity will improve over the next two years, and “after 2013, the situation is somewhat worrisome,” he said on Monday in Berlin. “There is not enough capacity and we want to see much more expansion.”

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601207&sid=a.OPyGD8C1Hw&refer=energy>

2. *September 29, Reuters* – (National) **Force majeure at NGPL’s Nebraska natgas line.** Kinder Morgan said on Monday a force majeure event occurred at NGPL’s natural gas pipeline compressor station in Gage County, Nebraska, due to “a breakage to machinery.” The company said in a website posting that it was in the process of making repairs and expected the unit back in service Wednesday. The near 10,000-mile NGPL gas line transports gas from major United States and Canadian producing areas to Midwest markets as well as other pipelines serving North America.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN2938090720080929>
3. *September 29, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. DOE to deliver SPR oil to Marathon Oil.** The U.S. Energy Department said Saturday it would deliver 500,000 barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to Marathon Oil. The emergency oil will go to Marathon’s Midwest refineries along the Capline pipeline system. Marathon requested the oil because of supply disruptions caused by hurricanes Gustav and Ike.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN2953070520080929>
4. *September 29, CleanTechnica* – (National) **EPA’s new Google Earth mash-up of renewable energy resources on contaminated lands.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released a Google Earth-based interactive website that pinpoints opportunities for solar, wind, or biomass siting on contaminated properties. The site combines the Google Earth platform with an EPA database that lists each property’s attributes for renewable energy development. According to the EPA, many lands tracked by the agency, such as large Superfund sites, and mining sites offer thousands of acres of land, and may be situated in areas where the presence of wind and solar structures are less likely to be met with aesthetic, and therefore political, opposition. Many EPA tracked lands are in areas where traditional redevelopment may not be an option because the site may be remote, or have difficult environmental conditions that are not well suited for traditional redevelopment such as residential or commercial. These EPA tracked lands also have key infrastructure already in place. Existing electric transmission lines and capacity, as well as roads, criss-cross many of the landscapes. In addition, most of the areas are adequately zoned for such development. There are approximately 480,000 sites and almost 15 million acres of potentially contaminated properties across the United States that are tracked by EPA. Maps for six types of energy, as well as non-grid connected wind and photovoltaic solar energy, for the entire nation are also available.
Source: <http://cleantechnica.com/2008/09/29/epas-new-google-earth-mash-up-of-renewable-energy-resources-on-contaminated-lands/>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *September 29, Reliable Plant* – (California) **EPA orders Jones Chemical to take steps at plant.** JCI Jones Chemicals Inc. will investigate soils, groundwater, and soil gas for chlorinated solvents, including trichloroethylene, perchloroethylene, and trichloroethane, at its industrial chemical supply plant in Torrance, California, under the

terms of an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The currently operating Jones plant lies adjacent to the former Montrose Chemical dichlorodiphenyl-trichloroethane (DDT) manufacturing plant which operated from 1947 until 1982. Montrose Chemical Corporation of California is completing studies and designing cleanup systems for DDT. Pursuant to the new agreement, Jones will supplement this Montrose work by investigating contamination at its plant property, which is part of the Montrose Chemical Superfund Site. Previous sampling of groundwater, soil, and soil gas has confirmed that the JCI Jones Chemicals plant property is contaminated. Groundwater concentrations of trichloroethylene, perchloroethylene, and the Montrose-related chlorobenzene far exceed drinking water standards. In addition, lead was found in soil samples at concentrations as high as 4,000 milligrams per kilogram — five times the EPA's industrial screening levels for lead. Elevated levels of benzene hexachloride and DDT have also been found in soils at the JCI Jones Chemicals plant.

Source:

<http://www.reliableplant.com/article.aspx?articleid=13632&pagetitle=EPA+orders+Jones+Chemical+to+take+steps+at+plant>

6. *September 28, Deseret News* – (Utah) **Woods Cross businesses evacuated after argon gas leak.** Woods Cross police evacuated several local businesses after an unknown quantity of argon gas leaked from the tank of a rolled tractor-trailer. The first officers on the scene immediately called for a HazMat team when they noticed gas leaking from one of the two tank-trailers on the truck. Police also evacuated area businesses as a precautionary measure. A Utah Highway Patrol investigator at the scene determined that the brakes on the rear trailer of the rig were faulty, and a citation was issued to the driver for the problem. Representatives of the company transporting the gas were called to the scene and aided in repairing the leaky tank. The amount of argon, a non-flammable gas, that escaped was not determined, but no gas-related injuries or damages occurred.

Source: <http://deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,700262511,00.html>

7. *September 27, Red Orbit* – (Utah) **Mysterious chemical spill probed.** Hazardous materials crews from the Unified Fire Authority along with officials from the Utah Department of Transportation and Salt Lake Valley Health Department are trying to figure out how a batch of sulfuric acid ended up on the side of a state road Friday. The first responding crews recognized the smoke did not look like a field fire and called a hazmat crew. That crew used binoculars to confirm it was a chemical spill and then entered the area of the spill. The spill started on the shoulder of state Route 202 and spread over a 45-foot by 25-foot-wide area. There were no barrels on the ground to indicate that the acid dropped off a truck. Investigators were looking at all possibilities from a spill to an illegal dump. The plume never posed a large threat to motorists. As there was little wind, the freeway remained open.

Source:

http://www.redorbit.com/news/science/1570137/mysterious_chemical_spill_probed/

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

8. *September 29, Reuters* – (International) **Agency founded to shore up nuclear security.** U.S. non-proliferation campaigners launched an agency on Monday aimed at sharing information to improve security at the world's nuclear sites. A World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS) is to be set up with \$3 million in funding from the Washington-based Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI), a matching \$3 million from the U.S. Energy Department and \$100,000 from Norway, and have a full-time staff of five to 10 experts. "Through WINS, professionals responsible for on the ground security will collect the world's best security practices for dealing with nuclear facilities and materials and share that information with peers worldwide," an NTI statement said. The agency will be based in Vienna, headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and is to complement IAEA work in nuclear security.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idUSTRE48S5FM20080929>
9. *September 29, Reuters* – (Arizona) **APS shuts Ariz. Palo Verde 3 reactor.** Arizona Public Service manually shut Unit 3 at the Palo Verde nuclear power station after the turbine tripped on high vibration on September 27, the company told the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in a report. At the time of the reactor shutdown, operators were shutting the unit from 100 percent due to a chemistry excursion in the secondary plant. The company said the shutdown was uncomplicated.
Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2950729820080929>
10. *September 29, Reuters* – (Minnesota) **Xcel Minn. Monticello reactor exits outage.** Xcel Energy Inc.'s Monticello nuclear power plant exited an outage and ramped up to 78 percent power by early Monday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The unit shut on September 11 due to a transformer failure that led to a loss of off-site power to some plant equipment. After the trip, the plant experienced other equipment problems involving safety-related systems. On September 17, the company declared an unusual event after a contract employee was fatally injured when he came into contact with a high-voltage power line outside the plant gates. That led to an interruption of power to some plant equipment, including a system designed to cool the reactor while it is shut. Workers restored power to the system and there was no danger to the plant workers or public. NRC sent a special inspection team to review the events on September 11 and September 17.
Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2936773420080929>
11. *September 29, Reuters* – (South Carolina) **Duke S.C. Oconee 2 reactor back on line.** Duke Energy Corp.'s Unit 2 at the Oconee nuclear power station in South Carolina returned to service and ramped up to 87 percent power by early Monday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The company took the unit off line by September 24 but left the reactor operating at about 18 percent power to fix an oil leak

in the main transformer. The company said the work last week had nothing to do with the upcoming month-long refueling outage expected to start in late October.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2936560920080929>

12. *September 26, Dothan Eagle* – (Alabama) **Cottonwood man to be sentenced for threatening nuclear plant.** A Cottonwood man will be sentenced in December for threatening to drive a car bomb into the Farley Nuclear Plant near Dothan, Alabama. A U.S. attorney said the man pleaded guilty to a single count of using a telephone to make a threat to damage or destroy a building with fire or explosives. He made the threat on February 18. The attorney said Friday the 44-year-old man faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine when he is sentenced on December 16. The initial complaint, filed in U.S. District Court, states the man called the security office at Farley several times, but was not permitted to speak with a woman who worked there. After security personnel refused to take any more of his calls, the indictment states the man continued to call and left voice messages on a digital answering system in the security office. According to the indictment, he stated, "... if I have to drive a... car bomb in the front gate, I'll do it." Farley personnel contacted the Houston County Sheriff's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. NRC then notified the Counter-terrorism Watch Center and Weapons of Mass Destruction Unit at the FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Source:

http://www.dothaneagle.com/dea/news/local/article/cottonwood_man_to_be_sentenced_for_threatening_nuclear_plant/38363/

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

13. *September 26, Bloomberg* – (National) **Crisis shows efficiency need, Pentagon's comptroller says.** The U.S. financial crisis may lead to lower defense budgets and more public demand for accountability over spending, the Pentagon Comptroller said. "Any crisis of this nature is going to affect – must affect – other federal spending," the comptroller since July 2004 said today in an interview on her last day in office. Congress is weighing a \$700 billion rescue package to help the economy as lenders cope with a credit crunch triggered by declining home prices and bad loans. Any analysis that suggests defense budgets will escape impact is too sanguine, she said.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601109&sid=a5EL9uQoR2sk>

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Banking and Finance Sector

14. *September 29, Reuters* – (National) **Citi to buy Wachovia assets.** Citigroup Inc. will buy the banking operations of Wachovia Corp. in a deal assisted by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., the FDIC said on Monday. Under the deal — struck in consultation

with the Federal Reserve, the Treasury, and the U.S. president — depositors will be fully protected and no cost to the Deposit Insurance Fund is expected, the FDIC said. “Wachovia did not fail; rather, it is to be acquired by Citigroup Inc on an open bank basis with assistance from the FDIC,” a statement on the FDIC’s website said. Citigroup will buy the bulk of Wachovia, including five depository institutions, and assume its senior and subordinated debt. Wachovia will retain ownership of its retail brokerage unit, AG Edwards, and its assets-management division, Evergreen. The FDIC said it would share losses with Citi on a pre-identified pool of Wachovia loans.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/newsOne/idUSTRE48S3D320080929?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=10338>

15. *September 29, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. Treasury opens money market guarantee program.** The U.S. Treasury Department said on Monday its temporary guarantee program for money market mutual funds was now in effect for at least three months. The Treasury said each fund regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under rule 2a-7 that maintains a stable share price of \$1 can now decide whether to participate in the program. To receive the government guarantee, participating money market mutual funds that had a net asset value of \$0.9975 or more per share on September 19 must pay a fee of 1 basis point per share to the Treasury. Those with a net asset value below \$0.995 on September 19 are not eligible for the program.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/governmentFilingsNews/idUSWEQ00021620080929>

16. *September 28, IDG News Service* – (National) **Trojan can grab extra personal banking data.** A Trojan horse program now available to a growing number of fraudsters can add data entry fields to legitimate online banking sites and entice consumers to give up sensitive information such as bank card numbers and PINs (personal identification numbers). The Limbo malware integrates itself into a Web browser using a technique called HTML (Hypertext Markup Language) injection, said the head of new technologies at RSA Consumer Solutions. Because it is so closely integrated in the browser, it can operate even while the user is at the real bank site and can actually change the layout of that site, he said. “Nothing tells you that something is wrong here, with one exception: You’re being asked to provide some information that you were never asked to do before,” he said during a briefing for reporters and analysts earlier this week. “Limbo can get onto a user’s computer through many paths, including both pop-up messages that ask you to download an add-on program and methods that are invisible to the user,” he said. They sometimes get on to PCs in conjunction with other phishing attacks. And like other malware programs, Limbo is becoming available to more fraudsters through an underground market that includes a complex supply chain and falling prices. Limbo costs about US\$350, down from about \$1,000 a year ago and \$5,000 two years ago, he said.

Source: <http://www.itworld.com/security/55421/trojan-can-grab-extra-personal-banking-data>

17. *September 27, Associated Press* – (National) **SEC scraps bank oversight program.**

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) said Friday it was ending a program of voluntary oversight for Wall Street investment banks that its chairman said clearly has not worked. The chairman of the SEC announced the agency's decision to end the program under which SEC examiners inspected the five biggest Wall Street banks: Goldman Sachs, Lehman Brothers, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, and Bear Stearns. The financial upheaval of the last six months has "made it absolutely clear that voluntary regulation does not work" for the bank supervision program, the chairman said in a statement. The program "was fundamentally flawed from the beginning, because investment banks could opt in or out of supervision voluntarily," he said. The seismic regulatory shift allows the only two independent investment banks standing on Wall Street (Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley) to create commercial banks that can take deposits, thereby bolstering their resources. It also puts them squarely under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Federal Reserve.

Source: http://money.cnn.com/2008/09/27/news/economy/SEC_oversight.ap/index.htm

18. *September 26, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Federal officials: Petters tied to multi billion dollar fraud scheme.** The chief executive of Petters Group Worldwide is the central figure in what authorities suspect is a multi-billion dollar fraud scheme that lured investors with empty promises, according to documents unsealed in federal court. In a sworn statement used to obtain nine search warrants, authorities said the capital raised through his equity company, Petters Co. Inc., was used "for his other business ventures and to support his extravagant lifestyle." The government claims that the twin city businessman and a circle of associates played loose and free with investors' money by creating the impression of a successful retail business that bought and sold phantom goods for more than 10 years. The government's allegations are contained in an affidavit prepared by an FBI agent seeking court permission for a series of search warrants. It was unsealed Friday afternoon in St. Paul.

Source:

http://www.startribune.com/business/29817604.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEyqyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aULPQL7PQLanchO7DiUF

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Transportation Sector

19. *September 28, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Medical helicopter crashes in Md. park, killing 4.** The pilot of a medical helicopter twice radioed for help in foggy weather before crashing Sunday, killing four of the five people on board in the latest of a growing number of air ambulance accidents, authorities said. The medical helicopter was carrying victims of a traffic accident when it went down in a suburban Washington park. It was the deadliest medevac helicopter accident in Maryland since the State Police began flying those missions nearly 40 years ago and the eighth fatal medical helicopter crash in the last 12 months nationwide. About 30 people have died during that period, according to the National Transportation Safety Board.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080928/ap_on_re_us/helicopter_crash;_ylt=ArWO8x7RI2JCGDTK85nqWs0NUE

20. *September 28, Aero-News Network* – (National) **Ex-Gulfstream Airlines employees claim maintenance problems.** A former Gulfstream Airlines lead mechanic alleges routine aircraft inspections often were completed only on paper, and pilots' discrepancies signed off without being repaired. And a former pilot alleges the airline disregarded his safety concerns, and routinely alters pilot-recorded flight times to meet FAA guidelines. Gulfstream Airlines operates primarily as Continental Connection, carrying 2,500 passengers daily to 20 locations in Florida and the Bahamas. Although a flight landing in Tampa last May suffered a nose-gear collapse, the airline maintains that it has a good safety record.
Source: <http://www.aero-news.net/index.cfm?ContentBlockID=0e8d6501-a1a4-4e53-8005-5aad21df6987>
21. *September 28, KUSA 9 Denver* – (Colorado) **1 arrested after explosives threat on DIA flight.** Authorities say a passenger was arrested Saturday after he allegedly made a comment that he had an explosive device on an aircraft at Denver International Airport. According to officials at DIA, the passenger made the comment as the airplane pulled away from the jetway, but before it was able to take off.
Source: <http://www.9news.com/news/article.aspx?storyid=100618&catid=339>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

22. *September 29, eFluxMedia* – (Michigan) **Michigan E. coli outbreak linked to Aunt Mid's Iceberg Lettuce.** Public health officials have identified the source of the E.coli outbreak that has sickened at least 24 people in Michigan, mostly in the southeastern part of the state. The Michigan Department of Community Health announced that iceberg lettuce from a Detroit-based produce distributor was the probable source of the statewide E. coli outbreak. The lettuce distributed by Aunt Mid's Produce was linked to more than 30 Illinois cases of E. coli, the Illinois Department of Public Health said. The people became sick after eating iceberg lettuce distributed by the company between the end of August and mid-September, health officials said. The company has voluntarily suspended the processing and sale of bagged lettuce throughout the United States.
Source:
http://www.efluxmedia.com/news_Michigan_E_coli_Outbreak_Linked_to_Aunt_Mids_Iceberg_Lettuce_25327.html
23. *September 27, eFluxMedia* – (National) **GAO report: FDA fails to protect Americans against food born illness.** A Government Accountability Office (GAO) report made public on Friday reveals that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) capability

to protect Americans against food-borne illnesses is hampered by staffing shortages, infrequent inspections, and lax enforcement at fresh produce processing plants.

According to the report, just only 1 percent of produce imported into the U.S. is inspected. Also, combined produce from several sources makes tracing any food contamination nearly impossible. FDA inspections, although rare, do not solve the discovered problems, as the FDA relies on the industry to solve them without oversight and follow-up, the report found. According to findings, 2,002 domestic companies were inspected an average of two times from 2000 through 2007. Though problems were observed in 41 percent of these inspections, FDA frequently relied on firms “to take voluntary corrective action.” Furthermore, GAO found that 92 percent of samples taken from imports were tested for pesticides rather than pathogens. The report also includes previously unpublished FDA data which say that from 1996 through 2006 there were at least 96 outbreaks, 10,253 illnesses, and 14 deaths linked to fresh produce.

Source:

http://www.efluxmedia.com/news_GAO_Report_FDA_Fails_To_Protect_Americans_Against_Food_Borne_Illness_25220.html

24. *September 27, Washington Bureau* – (National) **Citing cost, USDA kills pesticide-testing program.** The executive branch has abruptly halted a government program that tests the levels of pesticides in fruits, vegetables, and field crops, arguing that the \$8 million-a-year program is too expensive — a decision critics say could make it harder to protect consumers from toxins in their food. Data from the 18-year-old Agricultural Chemical Usage Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) were collected until this year, and the Environmental Protection Agency used the data to set safe levels of pesticides in food. The program was launched in 1990 to answer congressional concerns over the use of the chemical daminozide, or Alar, on apples. But now USDA contends the program is too expensive. The decision came as a shock to researchers at the EPA and elsewhere who have come to rely on the data, which measure how much pesticide farmers apply to certain crops each year. USDA had been scaling back the program over the last several years, alternating which fruits and vegetables are tested. In 2007, USDA tested only cotton and apples. Institutions that used the USDA data must now buy similar information from a private company. Those who have purchased the data packages said they cost about \$500,000 to \$700,000 a year.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-pesticidessep28,0,6191823.story>

25. *September 26, New York Times* – (National) **Asia food tainting spreads, leading to recall in U.S.** Two weeks after Chinese companies began recalling infant milk formula because of contamination by an industrial chemical, foods tainted with that chemical — melamine — are turning up in other parts of China and Asia, fanning fears in other parts of the world. In the United States, the Food and Drug Administration said Friday that some instant coffee and tea drinks, all containing a nondairy creamer made in China, had been recalled for fear of contamination. It is the first recall in the United States growing out of the melamine scare. The FDA said the King Car Food Industrial Company of Taiwan had called back seven products sold under the Mr. Brown label, mostly sold in stores specializing in Asian foods. The company’s tests in Taiwan had

determined that its nondairy creamer, which was made in China, was contaminated by melamine, the FDA said. No contaminated products have actually been found on American shelves. Exports of food ingredients from China have boomed in recent years. Some health experts say it may take some time to determine whether melamine seeped into food products that incorporated any of those ingredients.

Source:

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/27/world/asia/27recall.html?_r=1&oref=slogin

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Water Sector

26. *September 27, Gallup Independent* – (New Mexico) **Tribes want action on Tuba City dump site.** Studies since 1999 have indicated the presence of uranium and other metals in the Tuba City Open Dump and shallow groundwater exceed U.S. Environmental Protection Agency drinking water standards. The tribes have repeatedly indicated that clean closure — or excavation, removal, and off-site disposal of all buried wastes — is the only acceptable option to prevent future contamination. In 2008, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) put together a five-year plan of action for the open dump site that outlines how it plans to address the contamination. The tribes have objected to several components of BIA's five-year plan, including the need for additional investigation of the site.

Source: <http://www.gallupindependent.com/2008/09september/092708tuba.html>

27. *September 26, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Critics ask why state failed to warn about toxic algae.** An outbreak of toxic blue-green algae that threatened the health of Black Hawk Lake swimmers and Des Moines' drinking water 150 miles downstream drew little action from state environmental investigators, critics charged this week. The algae, or cyanobacteria, can cause rashes, intestinal illnesses, even death. Levels in the west-central Iowa lake were seven times more than an internationally recognized benchmark for safe swimming. State law charges the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) with monitoring water quality and protecting Iowans from such outbreaks. Yet no one from the agency warned swimmers to stay out of the lake. DNR officials said that no one asked them to investigate, and that they thought Des Moines Water Works had monitoring under control. But the DNR's lack of intervention caused water plant workers and farm groups to look at themselves for the source of the problem. At one point, the outbreak — which surfaced in early August and continues this week — forced the waterworks to stop using water from the Raccoon River.

Source:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080926/NEWS/809260381/1001/NEWS>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

28. *September 29, Minneapolis Star-Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Suburban trio's \$1.5 million**

health care fraud scheme collapses. A 51-year-old Eden Prairie man has admitted in federal court that he conspired with his wife and another person to commit health-care fraud involving about \$1.5 million. He pleaded guilty Friday in Minneapolis to cheating Medica, which administers the Medicaid public health care benefit program in Minnesota. He also admitted that the scheme involved submitting claims for translation services that had not been rendered to Medica members, and that he and the others prepared and submitted false claims to Medica. Two of the suspects owned and operated Global Interpreter Corp., which contracted with Medica to provide translation services to members as they were being treated by health care providers. The other was employed by Medica in the State Public Programs customer service department.

Source:

<http://www.startribune.com/local/29877629.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEyqyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc:Yyc:aU7EaDiaMDCiUT>

29. *September 28, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **8th NJ patients has Legionnaires' disease.** St. Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick, New Jersey, reported that an eighth patient has tested positive for the bacteria that causes Legionnaires' disease. Hospital officials said in a statement that the latest patient was released from the New Brunswick hospital on August 30, but was at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in early September. He was diagnosed with pneumonia, treated, and released two weeks later. The man's family contacted St. Peter's after the hospital notified nearly 2,000 patients discharged after August 20 who may have been exposed to the bacteria. Eight patients have now tested positive, and two have died, in the outbreak.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/newjersey/ny-bc-nj--hospital-legionna0928sep28,0,556629.story>

30. *September 27, Honolulu Star Bulletin* – (Hawaii) **Hospitals slash jobs, reduce capacities to 50 beds.** Another 150 Hawaii workers will be laid off in the latest round of cuts for the Hawaii Medical Centers (HMC). A month after filing bankruptcy, the financially troubled HMC said it is overstaffed since its patient census at its hospitals has plunged to 50 percent, while a new operating model is moving patients out of the hospital faster. The layoffs will affect employees across the board, except for doctors, at both its Liliha and Ewa facilities. The layoffs reflect an 18 percent reduction in its 830-member work force. HMC is reducing both facilities to 50-bed hospitals as part of its strategy to become profitable and emerge from bankruptcy within 12 months, said HMC's director of implementation. HMC said the reduction will not compromise patient care and that it will retain its four patients-to-one nurse ratio. But some workers are concerned that patients will be affected by the cuts at both facilities, which historically have provided services for lower-income Medicaid and Medicare patients.

Source:

http://www.starbulletin.com/news/hawaii/news/20080927_hospitals_slash_jobs_reduce_capacities_to_50_beds.html

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Government Facilities Sector

31. *September 29, Associated Pres* – (International) **U.S. Embassy in Brussels evacuated on false threat.** Belgian police say the U.S. Embassy in Brussels has been evacuated after a caller falsely told them there was a bomb in the building. Police on the scene said no bomb had gone off by the deadline the anonymous caller gave them. The American complex in the Belgian capital houses both the U.S. Embassy and the U.S. diplomatic mission to the European Union.
Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/09/29/europe/EU-Belgium-US-Embassy-Threat.php>
32. *September 29, WCMH 4 Columbus* – (Ohio) **Fire marshal treating OU threat as ‘MacGyver bomb.’** The state fire marshal was on the scene of a possible bomb threat on the Ohio University campus Monday morning, WCMH 4 Columbus reported. Investigators were on the scene at 11 a.m. and were treating the threat as serious until they can confirm it is not. The Ohio University director of safety and risk management said it is an unknown liquid in a 2-liter plastic coke bottle.
Source: <http://www.nbc4i.com/midwest/cmh/news.apx.-content-articles-CMH-2008-09-29-0015.html>
33. *September 28, Richmond Times-Dispatch* – (Virginia) **College of William and Mary quiet after anonymous threat of violence.** In Virginia, the College of William and Mary’s campus was quiet yesterday after an anonymous threat of violence. The school stepped up police patrols, rescheduled some activities, and took other preventive measures, said a spokesman. The vice president of administration sent an e-mail message Friday to students, faculty, and staff members, alerting them to the threat. The threat indicated there would be violence in the vicinity of the Sadler Center today. Campus police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, state police, and local law-enforcement agencies are investigating.
Source: <http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/news.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2008-09-28-0116.html>
34. *September 26, Federal Computer Week* – (New Mexico) **GAO: Los Alamos Lab has cybersecurity gaps.** The Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico suffers from cybersecurity weaknesses that affect how it protects information on its sensitive but unclassified network, according to a new report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO). That network includes sensitive data such as controlled nuclear information, export control information, and personally identifiable information about employees of the national lab, the GAO report released September 25 explained. The nuclear weapons lab has experienced breaches in its security in several incidents over the last decade. It was budgeted nearly \$200 million in fiscal 2007 to provide for physical and cybersecurity. Despite improvements, the facility continues to have gaps in its physical security and cybersecurity, the GAO report concluded.
Source: <http://www.fcw.com/online/news/153921-1.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

35. *September 29, Pittsburgh Tribune Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Fake injuries prepare responders ... just in case.** A hurricane drill was held Saturday at a hangar at the Air Force Reserve's 911th Airlift Wing in Pittsburgh. The drill went without a hitch, pleasing organizers of the National Disaster Medical System, an initiative of four federal agencies. The system, which has 70 sites in the country including Pittsburgh, is activated during a medical crisis resulting from man-made or natural disasters. Saturday's exercise at the 911th base near Pittsburgh International Airport followed the recent activation of sites in Oklahoma City, Dallas, and Little Rock. Those cities received victims from Hurricane Ike after it slammed the Gulf Coast nearly three weeks ago. The drill was a carefully orchestrated effort that involved 13 ambulance companies from throughout the region. It also involved the Disaster Medical Assistance Team, one of 53 similar teams of doctors and nurses in the country that are deployed when disaster strikes. Their job is to quickly sort out and stabilize patients, so they can be taken to one of 65 hospitals in Western Pennsylvania and Northern West Virginia, said the team's commander and Allegheny County EMS Manager.

Source: www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/cityregion/s_590528.html

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Information Technology

36. *September 29, VNU Net* – (National) **Apple issues Java updates.** Apple has issued updates for the Java components of its two most recent OS X releases. The three security fixes address a total of 38 Common Vulnerability and Exposure (CVE) entries in Java. Each of the fixes addresses errors which could lead to remote code execution. Apple said that the errors contained both Mac-specific and Java-specific flaws. While Sun Microsystems develops and maintain Java software for several operating systems, Apple is among the vendors that have opted to develop Java components in-house.

Source: <http://www.itnews.com.au/News/85603,apple-issues-java-updates.aspx>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

37. *September 28, San Jose Mercury News* – (National) **New worry for mobile phones: malware.** Security experts think mobile phones, particularly smart-phones with full operating systems, are the next malware (malicious software), battleground. The more phones perform the same functions as PCs, the greater the chance they will have similar vulnerabilities, experts say. Perhaps the best known handset virus is Commwarrior-A, a piece of malware identified in 2005 that spread to phones using the then-current version

of the Symbian operating system via text messages. The number of pieces of mobile malware detected since then has grown steadily. Analysts say there all kinds of ways that mobile malware could make mischief. Hackers have already induced phones to exchange text messages with rogue operators that charge a high per-message fee. Security experts worry hackers could soon use the GPS feature built into many phones to track the location of their owners. And experts are alarmed that a new generation of spyware dubbed “snoopware” could eventually be used to turn on the microphone or camera on a phone, allowing a hacker to listen in on phone owners’ conversations or see their surroundings.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_10558223

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Commercial Facilities Sector

38. *September 29, KTBS 3 Shreveport* – (Louisiana) **Evacuations affect industrial, residential area.** A handful of houses and businesses in an area east of North Market are under evacuation orders. One business owner told local news that he was told there was an ammonia leak. A nearby business has a tank of anhydrous ammonia, and Shreveport Fire teams and Caddo deputies are investigating if there is an actual leak or a problem with a safety valve. Hazmat teams were on hand Monday morning in case there was a major leak.

Source: <http://www.ktbs.com/news/Evacuations-affect-industrial-residential-area-17799/>

See also: <http://www.ktbs.com/news/No-one-hurt-in-ammonia-leak-17801/>

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

39. *September 29, Monterey Herald* – (California) **Fire burns 800 acres near coast Los Padres National Forest.** With ash still smoldering from this summer’s Basin Complex and Indians fires, another blaze ignited in Los Padres National Forest over the weekend, burning about 800 acres and prompting evacuations in the county’s southern coastal area. The fire broke out around 7:30p.m. Saturday near Chalk Peak, said a spokesman for the U.S. Forest Service. The cause of the fire, which was reportedly at zero containment Sunday night, is under investigation, he said. About 700 firefighters have been dispatched to the fire.

Source: http://www.montereyherald.com/news/ci_10588170

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Dams Sector

40. *September 29, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Donegal Lake may be drained to repair dam.** Donegal is among dams that are unsafe, according to the state Department of Environmental Protection. Donegal Township officials are concerned

that Donegal Lake, a popular spot for boaters, anglers, and picnickers, could be drained next year unless needed repairs are made on its dam. “We met earlier this year with officials from the state Fish and Boat Commission who maintain the lake and they told us that the dam there needs \$4.2 million in repairs and they had \$2.7 million and were asking us if we could contribute. We don’t have that type of money,” said the township supervisor. According to the fish and boat commission, the major issue with most of the “High-Hazard Dams” is they do not meet requirements to ensure that their spillways have the capacity to handle the maximum flow of water under flood conditions. Other commission dams in the region carrying the high-hazard identification are Lake Somerset in Somerset County, Virgin Run Lake in Fayette, Canonsburg and Dutch Fork lakes in Washington County, Glade Run Lake in Butler County, Kyle Lake in Jefferson County, and Upper/Lower Hereford Manor lakes in Beaver County.

Source:

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/tribunereview/news/westmoreland/s_590624.html

41. *September 29, Leelanau Enterprise* – (Michigan) **Repair estimate for sinkhole near Leland Dam is \$38,000.** In Michigan, a sinkhole that suddenly appeared next to the Leland Dam last spring following unusually heavy rains may be relatively easy to repair — but fixing it permanently will cost around \$38,000, officials learned this week. Members of the Leland Dam Authority met Monday morning to discuss an engineering report they received following a test conducted at the dam in July to determine why the sinkhole had appeared. In July, engineers injected brightly-colored dye into the sinkhole and, about 20 minutes later, the dye appeared in the waters of the Leland River just a few feet away from sinkhole. Officials had feared that underground streams may have caused the sinkhole, and that the appearance of the sinkhole might indicate some serious problems with the dam. Such was not the case, however. A report from Soil and Materials Engineers Inc., which conducted the test, indicated that the problem was most likely isolated to the immediate area of the sinkhole and was caused by voids created underground after heavy rains occurred. The engineering report indicated that the sinkhole and settling of the ground around the area was likely caused by the loss of soil into voids between the metal bulkhead and the old timber wall, as well as between stones in an aggregate used as fill in the area.

Source: <http://www.leelanaunews.com/blog/2008/09/29/repair-estimate-for-sinkhole-near-leland-dam-is-38000/>

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